Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 SR-02 ORM-01 IO-10 /080 W ------ 109132

R 061747Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6678
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

CONFIDENTIAL BONN 18907

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, GW, CI

SUBJECT: FRG RELATIONS WITH CHILE

REF: (A) SANTIAGO 7192; (B) SANTIAGO 7080; (C) BONN 17840

SUMMARY: ACCORDING TO FRG FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE, WISCHNEWSKI VISIT TO CHILE DEALT ONLY WITH HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS, MAKING SOME PROGRESS ON THIS SCORE. BEFORE LEAVING BONN, WISCHNEWSKI ASSURED CHILEAN AMBASSADOR THAT DM 21 MILLION CREDIT WAS ON TRACKS; NEITHER SIDE RAISED THIS ISSUE IN SANTIAGO. FRG STILL UNDECIDED ABOUT FURTHER CREDITS. END SUMMARY

1. EMBOFF MET WITH DR. NOELLE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF WESTERN LATIN AMERICA DESK IN FRG FONOFF, ON DEC 5 TO DISCUSS FRG-CHILEAN RELATIONS. ACCORDING TO NOELLE, MINISTER OF STATE WISCHNEWSKI'S SOLE PURPOSE FOR VISITING CHILE WAS TO PURSUE HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS. ON FIRST FULL DAY OF HIS VISIT, HE PRESENTED A LIST CONTAINING 42 NAMES TO INTERIOR MINISTER BENAVIDES, REQUESTING THAT PERSONS LISTED BE RELEASED ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS. WISCHNEWSKI EMPHASIZED HIS PERSONAL CONCERN, AND ASKED CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT HIS REQUEST BE GIVEN PROMPT CONSIDERATION. AFTER

SOME DIFFICULTY IN DETERMINING LOCATION OF SOME OF DETAINEES, CHILEANS RESPONDED POSITIVELY TO FRG REQUEST. IN FACT, FOURTEEN COULD BE RELEASED QUOTE IMMEDIATELY UNQUOTE (ACCORDING TO NOELLE, AT LEAST FOUR OF THOSE ON WISCHNEWSKI'S LIST HAVE ALREADY LEFT CHILE). THE LONE QUOTE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT CASE UNQUOTE, SAID CHILEANS, WAS THAT OF FORMER FONMIN ALMEYDA; CHILEANS EMPHASIZED HIS DETENTION STEMMED NOT FROM HIS POLITICS, BUT RATHER FROM HIS MISUSE OF GOVERNMENT FUNDS. (NOELLE VOLUNTEERED OPINION THAT CHILEANS WOULD NOT RELEASE ALMEYDA.)

- 2. CONTRARY TO IMPRESSION CONVEYED BY FONMIN CARVAJAL IN PARA 2 OF REFTEL (A), NOELLE MAINTAINED THAT DM 21 MILLION CREDIT FOR CHILE WAS NEVER RAISED BY EITHER SIDE DURING VISIT. PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM BONN,. WISCHNEWSKI ASSURED CHILEAN AMBASSADOR -THAT FRG COMMITMENT WOULD BE HONORED.
- 3. FURTHER FRG CAPITAL ASSISTANCE IS STILL VERY MUCH AN OPEN QUESTION. AID MINISTER BAHR'S OPPOSITION TO ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE IS UNDIMINISHED, BUT FRG FONMIN GENSCHER AND ECONMIN FRIDERICHS CONTINUE TO FAVOR AN AID PROGRAM. NOELLE GAVE IMPRESSION THAT FRG MSNISTRIES HAVE MADE ONLY MINIMAL PROGRESS ON RESOLVING THIS ISSUE IN LAST THREE WEEKS.
- 4. MEXICAN DECISION TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH CHILE WAS QUOTE COMPLETELY UNEXPECTED UNQUOTE BY FRG FONOFF. IF REPORTS HE HAD BEEN RECEIVING FROM CHILE WERE ACCURATE, NOELLE ADDED, MEXICO'S DECISION HAD ALSO COME AS A SHOCK TO MEXICAN CHARGE IN SANTIAGO. CASH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 06 DEC 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BONN18907

Document Number: 1974BONN18907 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740355-0388

From: BONN

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741256/aaaabvmm.tel Line Count: 93

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:

Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Previous Glassification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) SANTIAGO 7192; (B) SANTIAGO 7080, ; (C) BONN
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 09 MAY 2002

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <20 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: FRG RELATIONS WITH CHILE

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, EAID, GE, CI, (WISCHNEWSKI, HANS-JUERGEN), (NOELLE)

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005